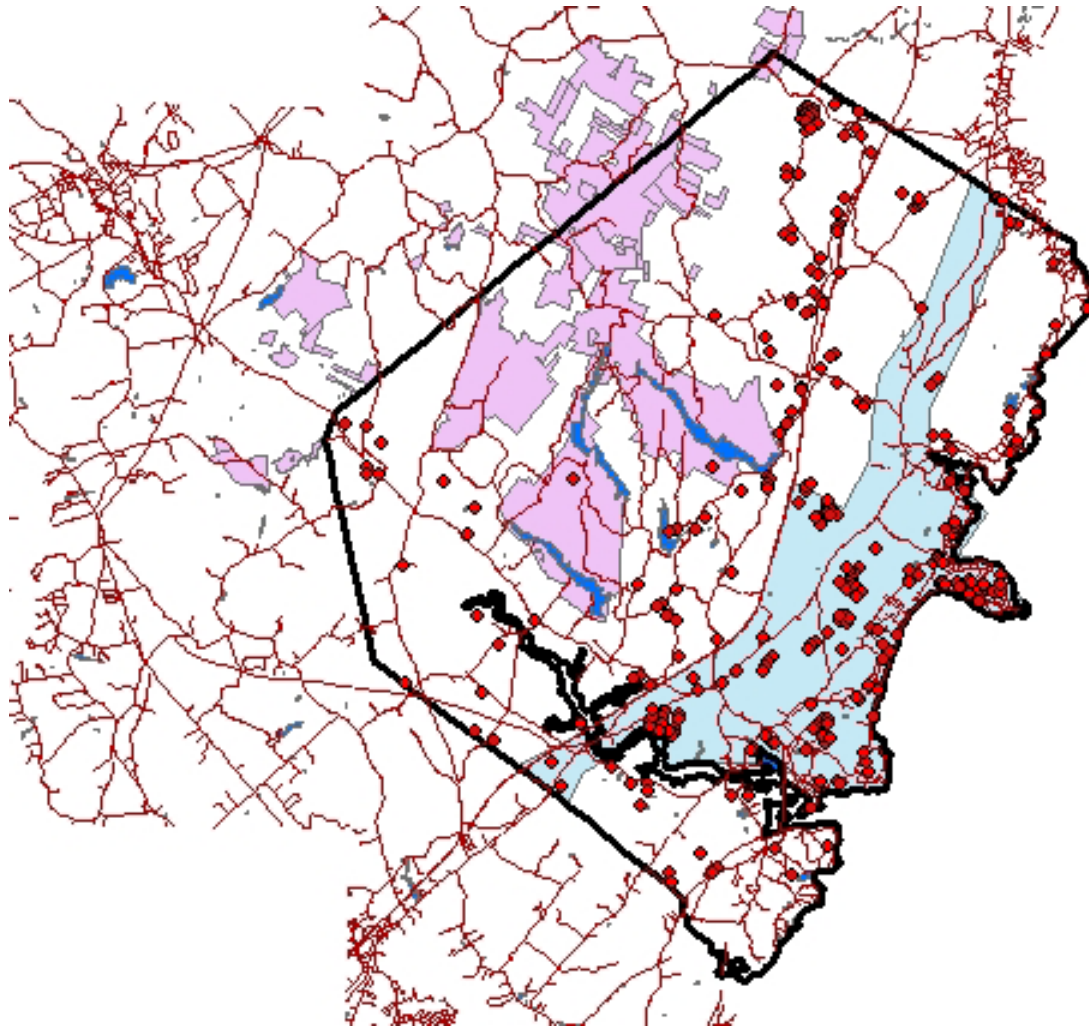


# Regional Open Space Planning

March 21, 2003

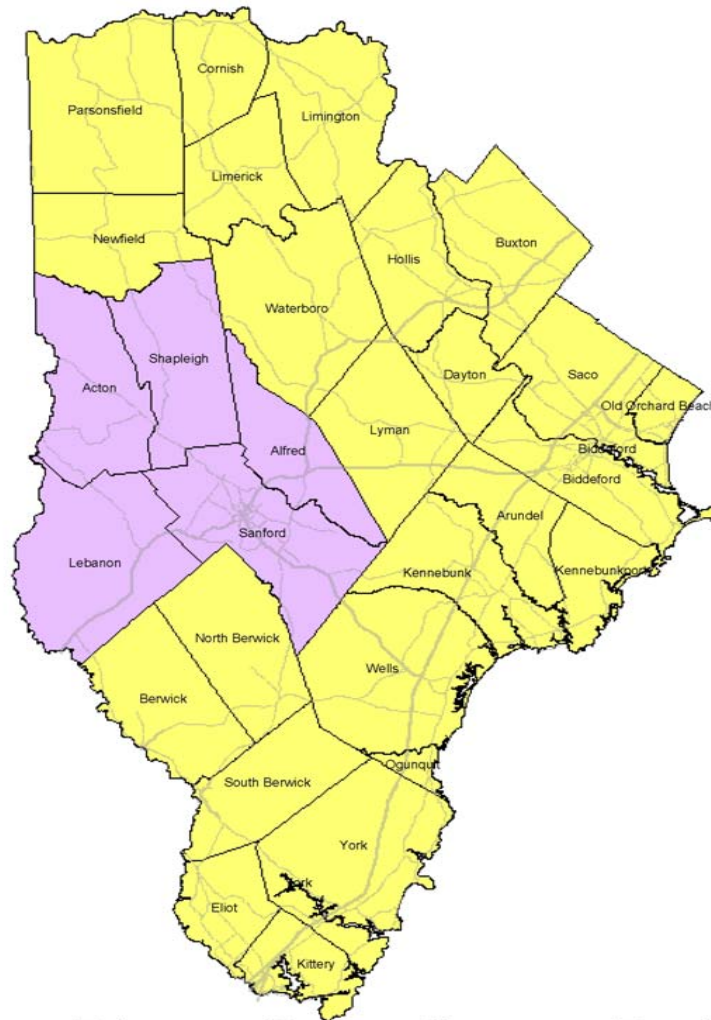
Paul Schumacher  
Executive Director  
SMRPC

# Mt. Agamenticus



# Background for Three Rivers Land Trust Project

- Group of smaller communities (plus Sanford), but next for the growth in York County
- Growing Land Trust activity in region
- Some conflicts in goals of local land trusts and growth plans for towns (Freeport, Kennebunk)
- Undergoing Comprehensive Plans
- Need to get everyone on the same page; opportunity for collaboration



## Three Rivers Open Space Project Context Within York County

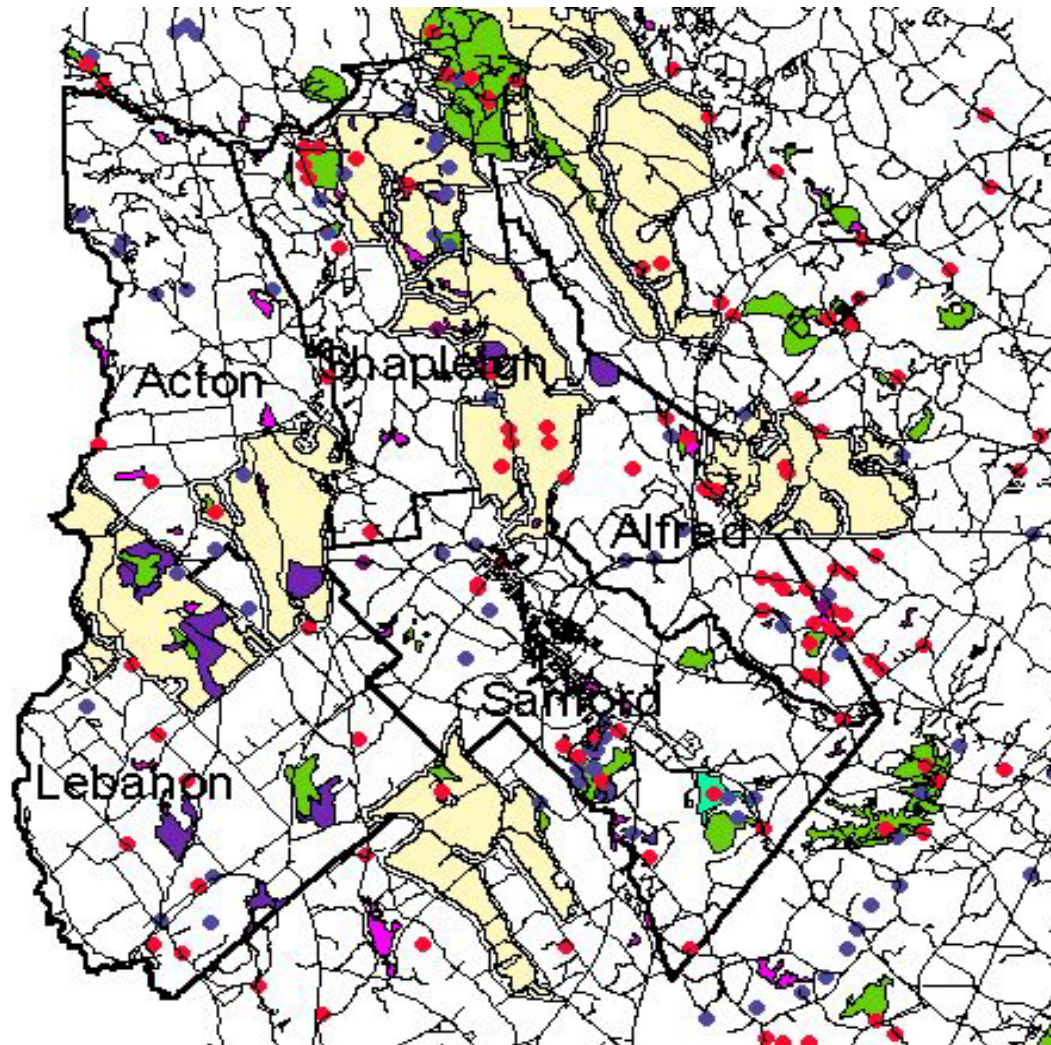
# Goals

- Create a strategic plan for conservation which met both the goals of newly established land trust and local communities
- Create environment where Land Trust and towns join resources to achieve land conservation goals on regional and local level

# Process

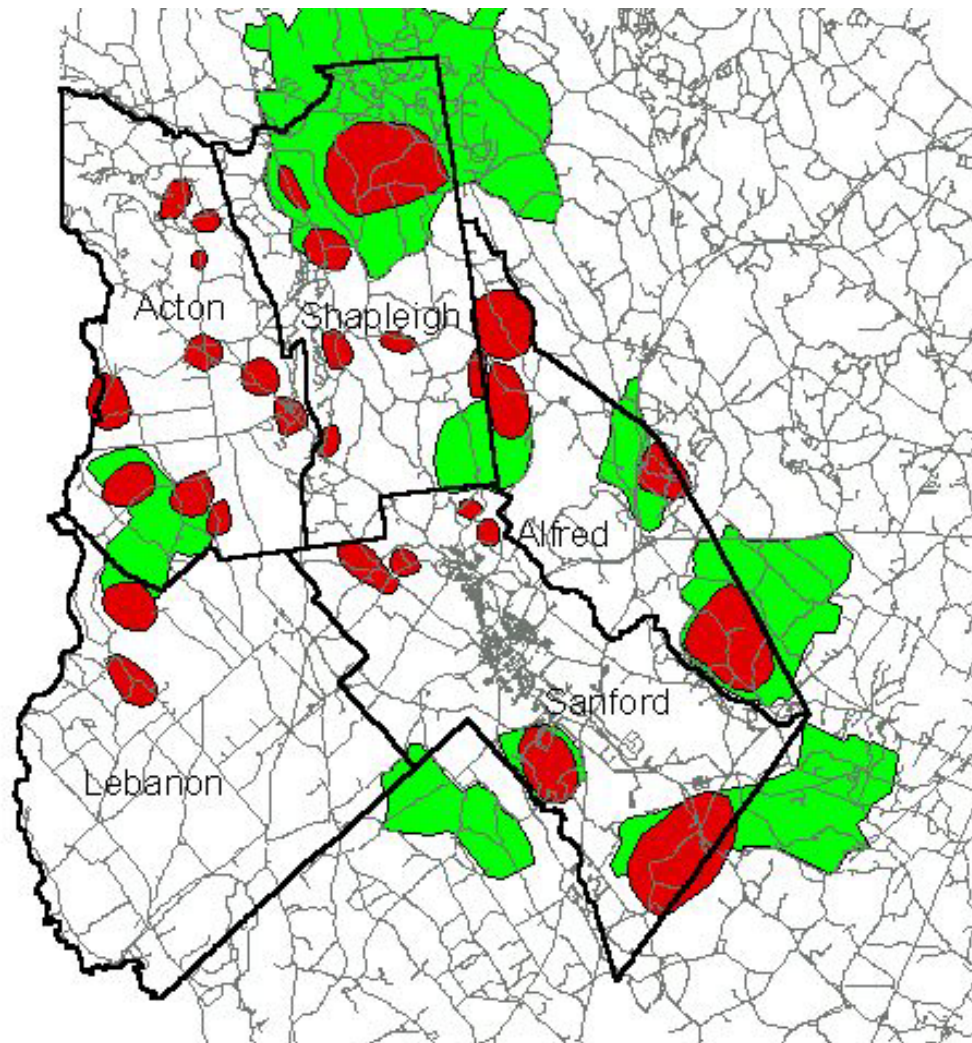
- Create working group which includes Land Trust members and municipal officials
- Develop a visioning process which respects regional and local concerns
- Develop an action plan which directs responsibility for conservation to both town entities and local land trust

# Three Rivers BWH Data



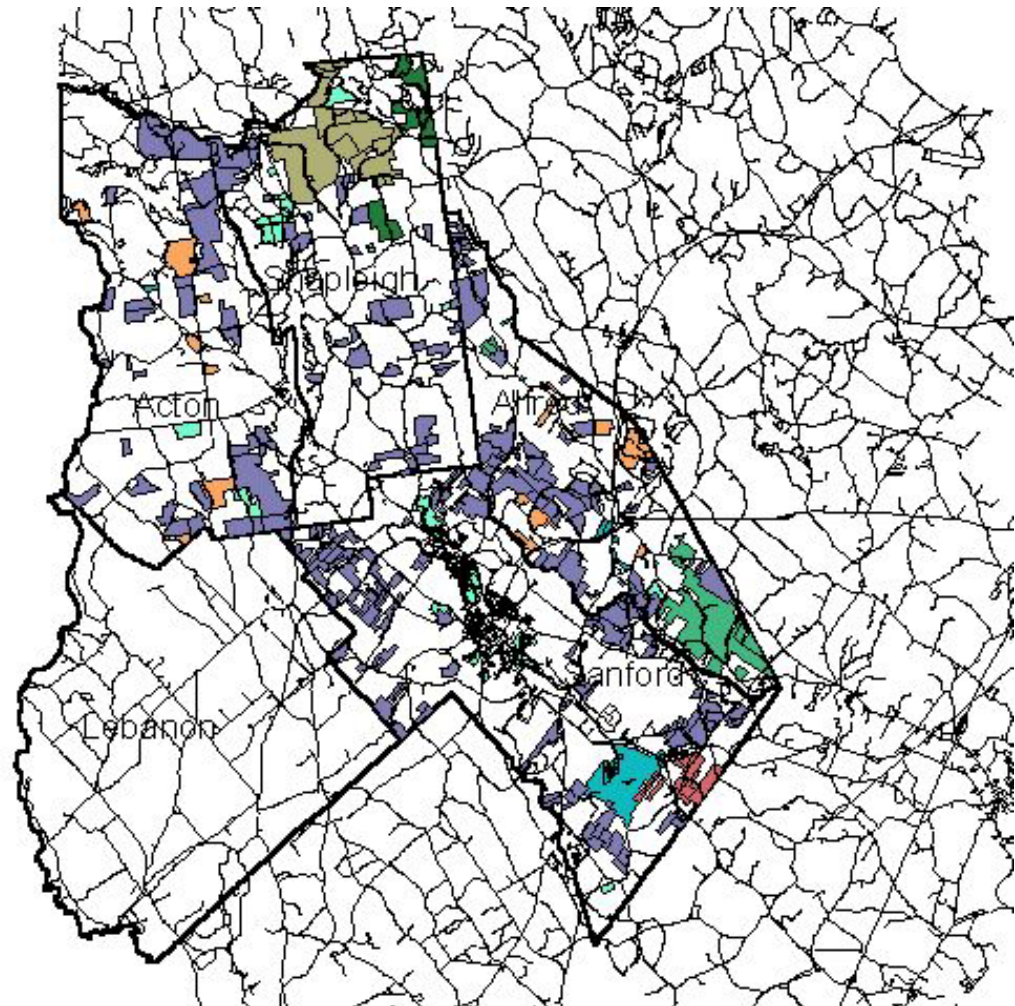


# Three Rivers BWH/Local Data

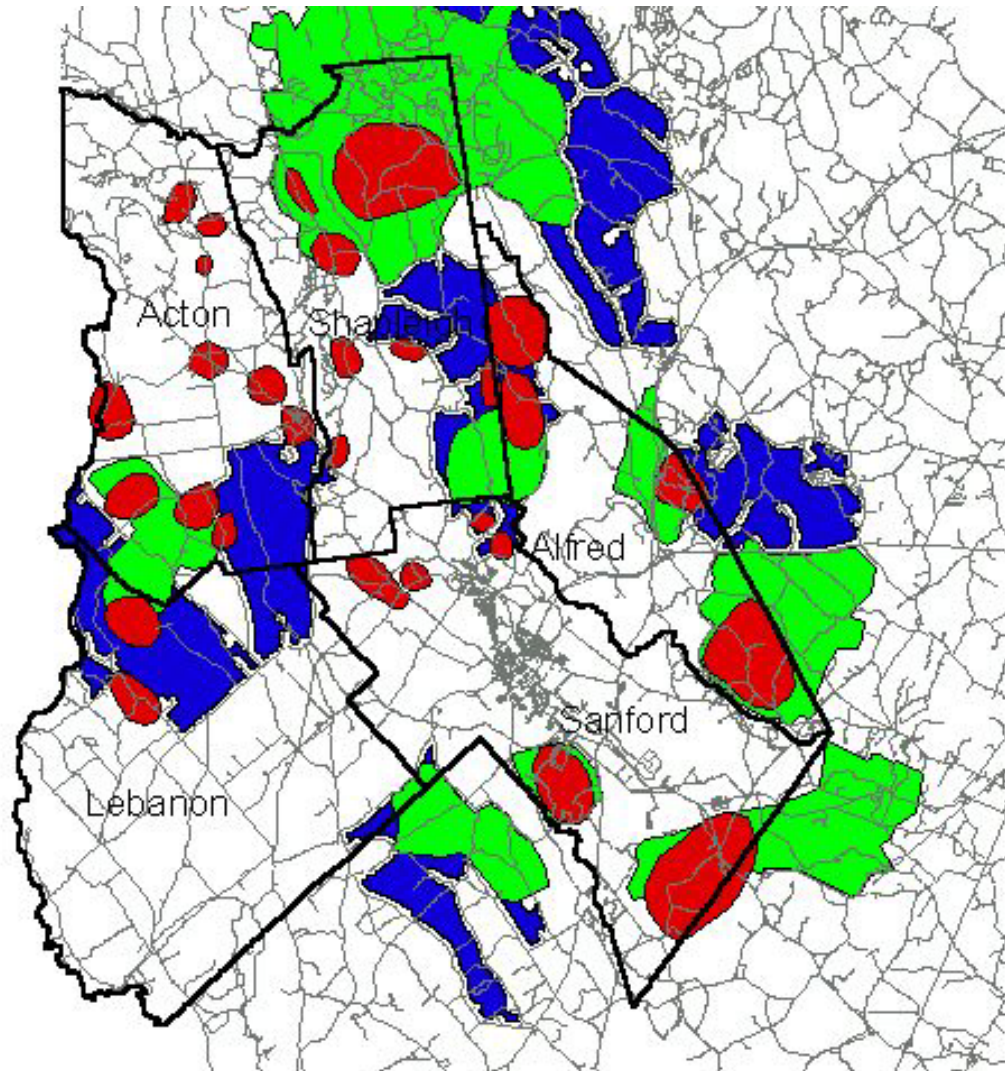




# Conservation/Current Use Lands



# Focus Areas



# Recommendations

- Institutionalize the role of Land Trust in the communities and establish conservation as an accepted part of municipal governing
- Capitalize an Open Space Fund by town and for use in conjunction with trust; open space impact fees; land bonds; set asides at Town Meeting

# Recommendations (cont)

- Incorporate priority areas mapping into Comp Plan process (critical rural areas)
- Education using assessors, municipal officials
- Land Trust w/ Towns focus on conservation/acquisition efforts in critical/focus areas
- Look for some short term successes

# Recommendations (cont)

- Develop regulatory options as part of Comp Plan/zoning changes

# Regional Opportunities and Constraints

- No real good standards for regional review of developments in critical areas
- Develop areas of Critical Environmental Concern?
- Area would be good candidate for regional TDR
- Incentive?



# Regional Opportunities and Constraints

- Deal with liquidation harvesting and then subdivision
- Getting local decision makers to the table
- Moving beyond merely voluntary actions to preserve regional resources.